



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CAP OFF NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK DURING POLLINATOR PALOOZA

COLUMBUS, OH — On Saturday, June 25, Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens will bring the public together with local groups for a free festival celebrating all things pollinators. Happening 11am-3pm in the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company Community Garden Campus, Pollinator Palooza features educational activities, demonstrations, live music, food trucks and nearly thirty local organizations.

The festival-style event will be fun for all ages, but it underscores an important topic. "We rely on pollinators for many things from our gardens to our food," said Community Outreach and Education Program Coordinator, Nicole Tabit. "Supporting pollinators of all types is more important than ever and Pollinator Palooza provides the community with opportunities to learn more about attracting pollinators to our yards, protecting endangered species and discovering the work local organizations are doing to assist the pollinators that are essential to our lives."

The event schedule includes:

### **Organization Fair & Activities** | 11am-3pm

Visit pollinator-centric booths from the Conservatory and participating organizations for activities, crafts, games, etc.

### **Food Demonstration** | 11am-3pm

Taste delicious foods made with ingredients that are only possible thanks to pollinators. Led by the Conservatory's Sustainability Educator, Heather Bell.

### **Live Music** | 11am-3pm

Led by Jeff McGarish, students from Fort Hayes will perform live music throughout the event.

### **Food Trucks** | 11am-3pm

Purchase food from local food trucks NAICCO, Tortilla, Dirty Franks and Chilljoy.

### **Exploring Pollinators in the Garden** | 11am & 1:30pm

Take a walk in the garden and observe bees in action. Led by Denise Ellsworth, the Program Director of Honey Bee and Native Pollinator Education, OSU Extension.

### **Stinger** | 1-2pm

The pollinator mascot that represents Columbus' hockey team will make an appearance.



Pollinator Palooza will occur a short distance southeast of the Conservatory's main entrance. Admission fees and reservations are not required to enjoy Pollinator Palooza.

Pollinator Palooza is the Conservatory's signature event during National Pollinator Week (June 20-26, 2022). Anyone interested in engaging with pollinators at the Conservatory can also visit the free Pollinator Garden, located in the Community Garden Campus, year-round. Classes centered on pollinators are also available:

**Plants for Pollinators** | July 12, 6-7pm

**Bat Walk & Talk** | July 29, 7:45-9:15pm

**Gardening for Moths** | August 27, 3-5pm

For more information, please visit [fpconservatory.org/pollinator-palooza](https://fpconservatory.org/pollinator-palooza), and follow the Conservatory on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).

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*Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens offers world-class horticulture, art and nature-based exhibitions, and educational programs for all ages. Situated on 40 acres on the eastern side of Franklin Park, the Conservatory features the historic 1895 John F. Wolfe Palm House; 83,000 square feet of glasshouses; botanical gardens including the Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Children's Garden; and meeting and event spaces. The Conservatory owns the largest collection of glass artwork by Dale Chihuly in a botanical garden and is home to internationally recognized light artist James Turrell's Light Raiment II, which illuminates the John F. Wolfe Palm House every evening from dusk until dawn.*